Table 2. Rationale for use of indicators in water-resource-quality-monitoring programs for meeting water-management objectives relevant to selected su uses. These are status and trends indicators meant to illustrate the suitability of a water resource for use by a management objective rather than demonstrated of a particular management objective on that water resource—Continued

Ecological condition

Economic concerns

Human health and aesthetics

Categories of indicators							
	Consumption of fish, shellfish, and wildlife	Public water supply and food processing	Recreation: Boating, swimming, and fishing (including catchability) ¹	Aquatic and semi- aquatic life, protected species and aquaculture	Industry: Makeup and cooling water, and other types of water	Transportation and hydropowe	
Suspended sediment turbidity, color.		Sedimentation affects longev- ity of dams and treatment.	Turbidity unaesthetic in some locales.	Sedimentation reduces habitat, clogs gills, and buries organisms. Tur- bidity affects primary productivity [1, 36].	Amount affects treatment, thus suit ability and cost of process waters.	Suspended sedi- ment reduces equipment longevity. Sedimenta- tionaffects dams.	- Sed cl ir co
			Part 3—Indicators of physic	ical habitat—Continued			
Bed sediment and sub- strate characteristics: Size distribution, embeddedness.	Affects chemical availability.	A source of suspended sediment.	Mud bottoms are unaes- thetic and reduce fish and habitat availability [11].	Affects habitat and chemical availability. Determines suitability for shellfish culture [3, 12].	 Affects treatment, thus suitability and cost of process waters. 	s Sediment affects equipment longevity, bank stability.	ir ve
Geomorphology: Slope, bank stability, channel morphology.	Alters contact time with toxicants.		Type of habitat (erosive and depositional) governs recreation potential [11].	Type of habitat (erosive and depositional) controls biotic community [12, 15].	Erosion of banks threatens structures.	Erosion and deposition affect depth, dam capacity navigation and dam lon- gevity [32].	
Riparian or shoreline vegetation, canopy, cover.	Filters out toxics.	Reduces turbidity.	Affects temperature, aesthetics and habitat, thus swimming and fisheries [10].	Affects habitat, temperature, productivity, oxygen, and inputs of organic matter [10, 12].	do	Snags from fallen trees block access. Plants alter flow of irriga- tion water.	Ripo al of cr

Part 4—Indicators of watershed-level stressors